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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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Philip L. Campbell

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06/20/2006

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION

DEPT. 18G

BLDG. 300-482

2070 ROUTE 52

HOPEWELL JUNCTION, NY 12533

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, CHUONG P

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3663

DATE MAILED: 06/20/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Response to Amendment

1. The reply filed on 05/12/2005 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): Applicant fails to elect one species from group A, one species from group B, one species from group C as required in the election.

Group A:

- Ai. A system for controlling a set of material carriers that senses its location by reading markers.
- Aii. A system for controlling a set of material carriers that senses its location by responding to signals from at least one GPS system.
- Aiii. A system for controlling a set of material carriers that senses its location by receiving transmissions from a local source.

Group B:

- Bi. A system for controlling a set of material carriers with coaxial cable extended conductor.
- Bii. A system for controlling a set of material carriers with twin-lead extended conductor.

Group C:

- Ci. A system for controlling a set of material carriers that communicates with a set of zone controllers through separate addresses for each zone.
- Cii. A system for controlling a set of material carriers that communicates with a set of zone controllers through separate channels in an RF spread spectrum receiver.

See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chuong Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-3445. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 - 5:00 PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack Keith can be reached on 571-272-6878. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

CN


JACK KEITH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER